

Be it resolved by the people of the state of Missouri that the Constitution be amended:

Article VI of the Constitution is revised by repealing Sections 30(a), 30(b), 31, 32(a), 32(b), 32(c), and 33 and adopting one new section to be known as Article VI, Section 30 to read as follows:

1. Definitions.

(1) When used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) “Effective date of this section” shall mean January 1, 2021, which shall be the effective date of the enactment of section 30 of this article and the repeal of sections 30(a), 30(b), 31, 32(a), 32(b), 32(c), and 33 of this article.

(b) “Financing obligation” means any bond, note, capital lease, or similar obligation of the metropolitan city, a municipality, a municipal district, or the St. Louis Municipal Corporation, as applicable, including any such obligations issued on behalf of any such entity and any such obligations issued to refinance or refund any such obligation.

(c) “General district service” shall mean any duty, service, or function of the metropolitan city, a county, or a city, now or in the future assigned by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city, including, without limitation: public health, safety, and general welfare; police, law enforcement, and municipal court; the licensing, taxing, and regulation of businesses, occupations, professions, activities, and things; transportation, infrastructure, and public works; and economic development.

(d) “Mayor” shall mean the mayor of the metropolitan city.

(e) “Metropolitan city” shall mean The Metropolitan City of St. Louis.

(f) “Municipal district” shall mean a municipal district of the metropolitan city, comprising the territory within the municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section.

(g) “Municipal district service” shall mean any duty, service, or function of the municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section or in the future assigned to the municipal district by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city, and which is not otherwise a general district service provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district, including, without limitation: fire protection, emergency medical, and related services; parks and recreation; proprietary and enterprise functions; facilities; and administration of the municipal district.

(h) “Municipality” shall mean any incorporated city, town, or village located wholly within the territory of the city of St. Louis or the county of St. Louis as of January 1, 2019, including the city of St. Louis.

(i) “Special district” shall mean, excluding school districts and fire protection districts, any political subdivision, municipal corporation, body corporate and politic, authority, metropolitan district, taxing district, taxing subdistrict, public corporation, or quasi-public corporation created pursuant to this constitution, law, charter, ordinance, or resolution, other than the county of St. Louis or a municipality, located wholly or partially within the territory in the city of St. Louis or the county of St. Louis immediately prior to the effective date of this section.

(j) “This section” shall mean this article VI, section 30.

(k) “Transition mayor” shall mean the transition mayor of the metropolitan city.

(l) “Transition period” shall mean the period between the effective date of this section and January 1, 2023.

2. Metropolitan City.

(1)(a) Upon the effective date of this section, the territory of the county of St. Louis is extended to embrace the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis and the county of St. Louis, and the county of St. Louis so expanded shall continue its corporate existence as a new political subdivision, body corporate and politic, and municipal corporation, which is hereby created, with its name "The Metropolitan City of St. Louis" and its seat of government within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis.

(b) All rights, duties, personnel, property, contracts, records, assets, liabilities, and obligations of any kind of the county of St. Louis, including, without limitation, the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations, and any obligations related to employee benefits, including, without limitation, pension, retirement, disability, death, medical, life insurance, and similar benefits for employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries, shall continue without impairment with the metropolitan city by operation of this section.

(2) The metropolitan city shall be a metropolitan city form of government, which is hereby created, and which shall possess all the powers and privileges of both a constitutional charter county and a constitutional charter city, including any city not within a county. The powers and privileges of the metropolitan city shall include, without limitation, all powers and privileges of the county of St. Louis and of any municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section, and all powers and privileges now or in the future granted to the metropolitan city, to a county, or to a city under this constitution and the laws of this state. Such powers and privileges shall be cumulative and shall be construed broadly in favor of the metropolitan city.

(3) The metropolitan city shall be governed by a charter. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the initial charter of the metropolitan city shall be the charter of the county of St. Louis as of January 1, 2019, except as otherwise provided in this section. The specific mention of or the failure to mention a particular power or privilege in the initial charter shall not limit in any way the powers and privileges granted herein to the metropolitan city. The initial charter shall be liberally construed to effectuate this section and in harmony therewith. The initial charter may be amended in the manner provided in this section and, following the transition period, in the manner provided by charter, provided that any amendment submitted by ordinance shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the qualified electors voting thereon.

(4)(a) Unless otherwise provided by charter following the transition period, there shall be no elective officers of the metropolitan city other than the mayor, the members of the metropolitan council, the assessor, and the prosecuting attorney. Elective officers shall be qualified voters of the metropolitan city and shall possess such additional qualifications provided by charter. Except as otherwise provided in this section, elective officers of the metropolitan city shall be nominated and elected in the manner provided in the election laws for state and county officers. No person duly serving in any office of the county of St. Louis or of any municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall be disqualified from candidacy for elective office of the metropolitan city or of a municipal district, but shall forfeit such office upon assuming elective office of the metropolitan city or of a municipal district. A vacancy shall exist in an office of the metropolitan city in the event of death, resignation, or inability to serve of the person designated by this section to assume such office.

(b) The salary for members of the metropolitan council shall be as provided for members of the board of aldermen of the city of St. Louis immediately prior to the effective date of this section and as may be fixed by ordinance. The salary for all other elective officers of the

metropolitan city shall be as provided for corresponding officers of the county of St. Louis immediately prior to the effective date of this section and as may be fixed by ordinance.

(5)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section with respect to the transition period, the legislative power of the metropolitan city shall be vested in the metropolitan council and shall include the exercise of legislative power throughout the territory of the metropolitan city, including within the territory of any municipal district, pertaining to any and all duties, services, and functions now or in the future assigned to the metropolitan city, to a county, or to a city.

(b) The metropolitan council shall consist of thirty-three members, elected for terms of four years by the qualified voters of the districts in which they reside, except that members initially representing even-numbered districts shall be elected for terms of two years to provide for staggered terms. Members shall be elected at the general election in 2022, and so on at succeeding elections, and shall take office on January first following election. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the members of the county council of the county of St. Louis duly serving as of the effective date of this section shall be entitled to continue service as members of the county council of the county of St. Louis for the term of office for which they were elected or appointed and receive compensation therefor in the exercise of the duties specified in this section.

(c) Members of the metropolitan council shall be elected from districts established in the manner provided in this section.

(i) Before April 1, 2021, the mayor and transition mayor shall jointly appoint a member or members of the faculty, with relevant expertise and without partisan affiliation, of one or more universities located within the metropolitan city to prepare a plan to divide the metropolitan city into districts from which members of the metropolitan council shall be elected. The plan shall include a statement of the boundaries of the initial districts, together with a map of such districts. Districts shall contain as nearly equal population as practicable, shall be compact and contiguous, and shall comply with all requirements of the United States Constitution and federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended. Such districts shall respect boundaries of municipal districts and communities of interest whenever practicable.

(ii) Before September 1, 2021, the plan shall be submitted for adoption, with or without amendment, by the county council of the county of St. Louis and the governing body of the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis. If both shall fail to adopt identical plans with the characteristics required by this section, on or before December 31, 2021, the plan as submitted shall be deemed approved as of that date. Upon approval, the plan shall be filed with the official performing the duties of a county clerk and the office or officers charged with conducting elections in the metropolitan city and shall be deemed incorporated into the charter.

(iii) On or before December thirty-first of the year following a federal decennial census, beginning with the first federal decennial census following the transition period, the districts shall be reapportioned, if necessary, in the manner provided in the charter and with the characteristics provided in this section.

(d) At its first regular meeting following the transition period, and every two years thereafter, the members of the metropolitan council shall designate a president and vice-president, whose terms of office shall be for two years.

(e) Any vacancy in the metropolitan council shall be filled by appointment of the president of the metropolitan council. Any person appointed to fill such vacancy shall have the

same qualifications otherwise established for the office and shall serve until a successor is duly serving following a special election for the unexpired or full term.

(6)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section with respect to the transition period, all executive and administrative power of the metropolitan city shall be vested in the mayor, who shall be the chief executive officer of the metropolitan city and shall possess and exercise all the powers and duties of the chief executive officer of a county and of a city now or in the future granted. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or this constitution, the initial mayor shall be the person duly serving as county executive of the county of St. Louis on January 1, 2019, who shall assume office upon the effective date of this section and hold office until a successor is duly serving. The mayor shall be elected at the general election in 2024, and every four years thereafter, and shall take office on January first following election. Except as otherwise provided in this section with respect to the transition period, a vacancy in the office of mayor shall be filled by the president of the metropolitan council, who shall possess and exercise the powers and duties of the office until a successor is serving following a special election for the unexpired or full term. While so holding the office of mayor, a temporary vacancy shall exist in the office of the president of the metropolitan council. The vice-president of the metropolitan council shall hold the office of president of the metropolitan council during any such vacancy, with the right of succession to the office of mayor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the transition mayor shall possess and exercise the powers and duties of the office of mayor in the event of a vacancy in such office during the transition period. The vacancy in the office of transition mayor thereby created shall be filled by appointment of the transition mayor, now serving as mayor, from a list of no less than three qualified voters nominated by resolution of the county council of the county of St. Louis. If the county council of the county of St. Louis shall fail to submit such list within seven days of the vacancy, the office shall be filled by appointment of the transition mayor, now serving as the mayor.

(b) The mayor shall appoint no fewer than four deputy mayors, to serve at the pleasure of the mayor and with such duties as directed by ordinance or executive order, with respect to public health and safety; economic development and innovation; community development and housing; community engagement and equity; and as otherwise designated by charter.

(c) There shall be an assessor of the metropolitan city who shall possess and exercise all the powers and duties of a county assessor now or in the future granted. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or this constitution, the initial assessor shall be the person duly serving as assessor of the county of St. Louis as of January 1, 2019, who shall assume office upon the effective date of this section and hold office until a successor is duly serving. The assessor shall be elected at the general election in 2024, and every four years thereafter, and shall take office on January first following election. A vacancy in the office shall be filled by appointment of the mayor, and the person so appointed shall hold office until January first following the next general election at which a successor shall be elected for the unexpired or full term.

(d) There shall be a prosecuting attorney of the metropolitan city who shall possess and exercise all the powers and duties of a prosecuting attorney and the circuit attorney for the city of St. Louis now or in the future granted. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or this constitution, the initial prosecuting attorney shall be the person duly serving as prosecuting attorney of the county of St. Louis on January 1, 2019, who shall assume office upon the effective date of this section and hold office until a successor is duly serving. The prosecuting attorney shall be elected at the general election in 2024, and every four years thereafter, and shall take office on January first following election. A vacancy in the office shall be filled by

appointment of the mayor, and the person so appointed shall hold office until January first following the next general election at which a successor shall be elected for the unexpired or full term.

(e) There shall be a metropolitan city counselor appointed by the mayor, with such qualifications provided by charter, who shall serve as the metropolitan city's attorney and counselor at law and shall possess and exercise all the powers and duties of a county counselor and a city attorney now or in the future granted.

(f) Except as provided in this section, the metropolitan city shall have such departments and offices as established by the county of St. Louis as of the effective date of this section and as may be subsequently established by the metropolitan city. Except for the heads of a department appointed by the majority of the circuit judges as provided by charter, the heads of each department shall be appointed by the mayor and shall assume office upon appointment. Upon the effective date of this section, a board or commission of the county of St. Louis, and which is not the governing body of a special district, shall continue as a board or commission of the metropolitan city, until otherwise provided by charter or by ordinance of the metropolitan city, with the members duly serving holding office until a successor is duly appointed. The members of boards and commissions of the metropolitan city shall be appointed by the mayor, or otherwise as designated by charter, and shall exercise such duties and functions as assigned by law, charter, ordinance, or order.

(7)(a) During the transition period, all executive and administrative power of the metropolitan city shall be vested jointly in the mayor and transition mayor, who shall together constitute the chief executive officer of the metropolitan city and who shall jointly undertake or order the exercise or performance of any power, duty, or function necessary and proper to faithfully execute the orderly administration and implementation of this section. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the transition mayor shall be the person serving as mayor of the city of St. Louis on January 1, 2019, who shall assume the office of transition mayor upon the effective date of this section and hold office until January 1, 2023. During the transition period, the transition mayor shall concurrently exercise the powers, privileges, duties, and functions of the chief executive officer of the governing body of the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis. A vacancy in the office of transition mayor shall be filled by appointment of the mayor from a list of no less than three qualified voters nominated by resolution of the governing body of the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis. If the governing body of the municipal district shall fail to submit such list within seven days of the vacancy, the office shall be filled by appointment of the mayor.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, to the extent an executive or administrative power, duty, or function is required to be exercised or performed by the metropolitan city during the transition period, such power, duty, or function may be exercised or performed jointly by the mayor and transition mayor or, at their joint direction, by an official or employee of the metropolitan city or of a municipal district, but shall be deemed exercised or performed by the metropolitan city. Such powers, duties, and functions shall include, without limitation: (i) on or before February 1, 2021, establishing procedures related to the joint exercise and performance of the power, duties, and functions authorized by this section, including, without limitation, a procedure for the resolution of any nonconcurrence among the mayor and transition mayor; (ii) on or before April 1, 2021, making appointments to offices, departments, boards, and commissions, except for officers appointed by a majority of the circuit judges as provided in the charter, with such persons assuming office upon their appointment; (iii) ordering

the metropolitan city provide or secure the provision of a general district service within the territory of a municipal district; (iv) administering the budget for each year of the transition period in the manner provided in this section; (v) transferring and assigning the functions and duties of personnel; (vi) entering into contracts and agreements; (vii) transferring and accepting the transfer of property; and (viii) executing any necessary documents or instruments related thereto on behalf of the metropolitan city. The mayor and transition mayor shall jointly undertake or order the exercise or performance of such powers, duties, or functions pursuant to executive order contemporaneously transmitted to the county council of the county of St. Louis and the governing body of each municipal district.

(c) During the transition period, the mayor and transition mayor shall jointly solicit public comment and, before November 15, 2022, shall jointly present to the public, at meetings called for such purpose, a plan to create, organize, and abolish executive and administrative departments, divisions, bureaus, commissions, boards, offices, and employments, and transfer the functions and duties thereof, as necessary and proper to effectuate this section and to ensure the proper and efficient administration of the affairs of the metropolitan city. The plan shall provide for the exercise of executive and administrative powers and duties of counties and county officers prescribed by this constitution and laws of the state and shall provide for the exercise of executive and administrative powers, privileges, duties, and functions of the metropolitan city prescribed in this section, including, without limitation, providing or securing the provision of general district services throughout the territory of the metropolitan city. On or after January 1, 2023, the plan shall be submitted to the metropolitan council and shall take effect within thirty days of submission, unless disapproved by resolution adopted by two-thirds of all members voting in the affirmative, provided that if the plan would affect the department of judicial administration, such plan shall not become effective unless upon the concurrence of a majority of the circuit judges within the metropolitan city. Upon taking effect, the plan shall take the place of and supersede charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders inconsistent therewith.

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, during the transition period, the county council of the county of St. Louis and the governing body of the municipal district located within the territory heretofore of the city of St. Louis, upon the joint recommendation of the mayor and transition mayor, shall adopt resolutions, ordinances, and orders consistent with this section and its orderly implementation and administration, with such resolutions, ordinances, and orders deemed as on behalf of the metropolitan city upon their adoption by both such bodies and the joint approval thereof by the mayor and transition mayor, and may continue to separately adopt resolutions, ordinances, and orders consistent with this section and its orderly implementation and administration applying to their respective territories.

(e) During the transition period, the governing body of a municipal district shall administer the affairs of the municipal district, provided that, unless upon the joint approval of the mayor and transition mayor, no municipal district shall incur any new obligation extending beyond the transition period with respect to the provision of general district services, other than with respect to the refunding of financing obligations, nor dispose of its property, except as required by contract.

(f) During the transition period, it shall be the affirmative duty of any official or employee of the metropolitan city, the county of St. Louis, or a municipal district to cooperate in the orderly administration and implementation of this section under the joint direction of the

mayor and transition mayor and to refrain from any official action that would impair or frustrate its orderly administration and implementation.

(8) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, upon the effective date of this section, the powers and duties of any county office of the city of St. Louis or the county of St. Louis shall be deemed exercised or performed on behalf of the metropolitan city. Except as otherwise provided in this section, on or before January 1, 2022, all property, contracts, records, and personnel related to any such county office shall be transferred to the corresponding office of the metropolitan city. Incumbents serving in such offices shall serve the remainder of the term for which they were elected or appointed, subject to any right of resignation, and shall receive compensation therefor in the performance of such duties directed by the metropolitan city.

(9) The entire territory of the metropolitan city shall be a general services district throughout which the metropolitan city shall provide or secure the provision of general district services, including within the territory of any municipal district. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a municipal district shall continue to provide or secure the provision of a general district service on behalf of the metropolitan city until provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district pursuant to executive order or ordinance of the metropolitan city. Except as otherwise provided in this section and excluding any fund balance of a municipal district, any property, contracts, records, and personnel of a municipal district related to providing or securing a general district service shall be transferred to the metropolitan city upon the metropolitan city providing or securing the provision of a general district service within the territory of the municipal district.

(10)(a) The metropolitan city shall enforce its ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders throughout its territory. Ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders of the county of St. Louis in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall remain effective as ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders of the metropolitan city and shall be enforced by the metropolitan city until repealed, modified, or amended by the metropolitan city, except to the extent of any conflict with this section. Charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders of any municipality in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall become effective as ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders of the metropolitan city as if enacted or promulgated by the metropolitan city and shall be enforced by the metropolitan city with respect to the territory to which they applied immediately prior to the effective date of this section until repealed, modified, or amended by the metropolitan city, except to the extent of any conflict with this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the transition period, a municipal district may, under the direction of the metropolitan city, continue to enforce such ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders within its territory, and such enforcement shall be deemed on behalf of the metropolitan city. All ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, or orders of the metropolitan city shall be construed to effectuate this section.

(b) The metropolitan city counselor shall review all charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders and shall solicit public comments related thereto. By no later than November 15, 2022, the metropolitan city counselor shall issue a report on such modifications and revisions necessary or advisable, including, without limitation, to resolve any conflicts whereby any rights, remedies, entitlements, or the enforcement thereof, cannot reasonably be reconciled. The metropolitan council may adopt the report by ordinance, and, upon adoption, the charter, ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, and orders in effect shall be deemed modified to reflect the report so adopted.

(11)(a) Upon the effective date of this section, the jurisdiction of the municipal court for the county of St. Louis shall be extended to the entire territory of the metropolitan city and shall constitute the municipal court for the metropolitan city. The municipal court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine cases involving violations of ordinances in the manner provided by this constitution or by law, rule, charter, or ordinance. Notwithstanding the foregoing, during the transition period, a municipal court within the metropolitan city immediately prior to the effective date of this section may continue to operate as a division of the municipal court of the metropolitan city, with any act of such division deemed performed on behalf of the municipal court of the metropolitan city. On or before January 1, 2023, property, contracts, records, and personnel of any municipal court within the metropolitan city immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall be transferred to the municipal court of the metropolitan city.

(b) The metropolitan city may authorize the municipal court to operate within divisions and in such locations as are convenient to residents of the metropolitan city and which may correspond with the geographic boundaries of one or more municipal courts immediately prior to the effective date of this section. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the municipal court shall have such municipal judges, and the necessary non-judicial personnel assisting them, as provided by law and ordinance. Unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city respecting a municipal court, the mayor shall appoint, with advice and consent of the metropolitan council, the judges of the municipal court. The metropolitan city shall prescribe by ordinance the tenure and compensation of the judges of the municipal court. Municipal judges and necessary non-judicial personnel shall serve full-time, unless otherwise provided by charter of the metropolitan city, provided that the compensation for any full-time judge of the municipal court shall not exceed the compensation for an associate circuit judge.

(c) The clear proceeds of all penalties, forfeitures, and fines collected by the municipal court shall be distributed annually to the schools of the metropolitan city according to law.

3. Municipal Districts.

(1)(a) Upon the effective date of this section, a municipality shall continue its corporate existence as a municipal district, with its name the term "Municipal District" preceded by the name of the municipality, less any previous designation as to city, town, or village, unless otherwise designated by the municipal district or by law. A municipal district of the metropolitan city, which is hereby created, shall be a political subdivision, body corporate and politic, and municipal corporation, exercising and performing such powers, privileges, duties, and functions of the municipality necessary and proper: (i) to provide or secure the provision of a municipal district service not otherwise provided or secured within its territory; (ii) to provide or secure the provision of a general district service until provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district pursuant to executive order or ordinance of the metropolitan city; and (iii) for the satisfaction of outstanding obligations of any kind incurred by the municipality prior to the effective date of this section.

(b) All rights, duties, personnel, property, contracts, records, assets, liabilities, and obligations of any kind of the municipality, including, without limitation, the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations and any obligation related to employee benefits, including, without limitation, pension, retirement, disability, death, medical, life insurance, and similar benefits for employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries, shall continue without impairment with the municipal district by operation of this section. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the municipal district and the territory therein shall continue to be held

responsible for any such outstanding obligation to the same extent as the municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section, and any tax, license, fee, or special assessment levied or imposed for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation shall continue to be levied or imposed within its territory until such obligation is satisfied or the obligation terminates pursuant to the terms thereof. The municipal district may refinance or refund any outstanding financing obligation in the manner provided by law for the municipality. Any property or interest therein securing an outstanding financing obligation shall remain the property of the municipal district until such financing obligation is satisfied, unless otherwise provided pursuant to the terms thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the metropolitan city may assume any outstanding obligation of the municipal district, provided that no such assumption shall impair any obligation of contract.

(2)(a) The governing body of a municipal district shall be the governing body of the municipality, exercising and performing such powers, privileges, duties, and functions of the governing body of the municipality necessary and proper to effectuate this section and for the proper and efficient administration of the municipal district, including, without limitation, serving the function of a planning commission and board of adjustment to the metropolitan city, in the manner authorized by the metropolitan city, with respect to zoning ordinances applicable to territory of the municipal district.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the initial governing body shall consist of the members of the governing body of the municipality duly serving immediately prior to the effective date of this section, who shall assume office with the municipal district upon the effective date of this section and hold office until a successor is duly serving following election, beginning with the first general municipal election following the transition period.

(c) Upon the effective date of this section, a board or commission of the municipality, and which is not the governing body of a special district, shall continue as a board or commission of the municipal district, until otherwise provided by the municipal district, by the metropolitan city, or by law, with the members duly serving holding office until a successor is duly appointed in a manner consistent with that of the municipality or as provided by law.

(3) The boundaries of a municipal district shall not be altered except as approved by ordinance of the metropolitan city. Following the transition period, a municipal district may merge or consolidate with one or more municipal districts or may be dissolved as authorized by ordinance of the metropolitan city providing for the transfer of any rights, duties, personnel, property, contracts, assets, liabilities, and obligations and the procedure and effective date for such merger, consolidation, or dissolution. Such ordinance may provide for creation of a new municipal district to assume the powers, privileges, duties, and functions of any municipal districts so subsumed.

4. The St. Louis Municipal Corporation.

(1)(a) On January 1, 2023, the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis shall continue its corporate existence as a political subdivision and municipal corporation, with its name "The St. Louis Municipal Corporation." The St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall exercise and perform such powers, privileges, duties, and functions of the municipal district necessary and proper: (i) for the satisfaction of outstanding obligations of any kind of the municipal district; and (ii) to provide or secure the provision of a municipal district service not otherwise provided or secured within its territory, except as otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all rights, duties, personnel, property, contracts, records, assets, liabilities, and obligations of any kind of the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis, including, without limitation, the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations, and any obligation related to employee benefits, including, without limitation, pension, retirement, disability, death, medical, life insurance, and similar benefits for employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries, shall continue without impairment with the St. Louis Municipal Corporation by operation of this section. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the St. Louis Municipal Corporation and the territory therein shall continue to be held responsible for any such outstanding obligation to the same extent as the municipal district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis, and any tax, license, fee, or special assessment levied or imposed for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation shall continue to be levied or imposed within its territory until such obligation is satisfied or the obligation terminates pursuant to the terms thereof. The St. Louis Municipal Corporation may refinance or refund any outstanding financing obligation in the manner provided by law for the municipality. Any property or interest therein securing any outstanding financing obligation shall remain the property of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation until such financing obligation is satisfied, unless otherwise provided pursuant to the terms thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the metropolitan city may assume any outstanding obligation of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation, provided that no such assumption shall impair any obligation of contract.

(2) The governing body of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall be comprised of a board of directors of five qualified voters appointed by the transition mayor, with three directors appointed for terms of three years and two appointed for terms of two years. Such initial members shall assume office on January 1, 2023, and shall hold office until a successor is duly appointed by the mayor of the metropolitan city. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the members of the governing body of the municipal district shall serve the remainder of the term of office for which they were elected or appointed, subject to any right of resignation, and receive compensation therefor in the performance of such duties as directed by the governing body of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation.

(3)(a) As provided in this section for a municipal district, the territory of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall continue as a taxing subdistrict of the metropolitan city, and the St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall continue as a separate taxing district, provided that it may exercise only such taxing powers of the municipal district authorized for its exercise by ordinance of the metropolitan city, except as otherwise provided in this section for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city, the metropolitan city shall distribute funds to the St. Louis Municipal Corporation in the manner and for the purposes provided in this section with respect to a municipal district and may levy or impose a tax, license, fee, or special assessment solely within the territory of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation in the manner and for the purposes provided in this section with respect to a tax, license, fee, or special assessment of the metropolitan city levied or imposed solely within the territory of a municipal district.

(c) Unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city, the St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall be deemed a municipal district for purposes of determining the right to receive, and for the calculation and receipt of, distributions, allocations, remittances, and reimbursements of any kind from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private.

5. Finances.

(1)(a) General district services and the satisfaction of outstanding obligations of any kind of the metropolitan city shall be financed with funds generated throughout the territory of the metropolitan city, including within the territory of any municipal district thereof, or otherwise secured by the metropolitan city. Municipal district services provided or secured by a municipal district within its territory and the satisfaction of outstanding obligations of any kind of a municipal district shall be financed with funds generated within the territory of the municipal district, or otherwise secured by the municipal district.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the metropolitan city shall be empowered to take any and all actions necessary and proper to ensure the satisfaction of outstanding obligations incurred prior to the effective date of this section and to prevent any impairment thereof.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the tax structure, tax rates, and level of services in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall remain in effect until modified by the metropolitan city. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, in order to maintain the tax structure, tax rates, and level of services, all taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments levied or imposed by the county of St. Louis or by a municipality shall continue as a tax, license, fee, or special assessment of the metropolitan city with respect to the territory to which the same applied immediately prior to the effective date of this section, until modified by the metropolitan city, but shall remain subject to any duty or requirement regarding the use of funds generated thereby and shall remain subject to any requirement imposed by law for voter approval of the continued levy or imposition of any such tax initially levied or imposed prior to the effective date of this section. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the continuation of any such taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments shall not be deemed an action by a political subdivision in levying, increasing, or broadening the base of an existing tax, license, or fee.

(b)(i) The metropolitan city shall distribute to the municipal district funds generated by any tax, license, fee, or special assessment of the metropolitan city initially levied by the municipality as required for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation. If any outstanding obligation is subject to the appropriation of funds therefor, the governing body of the municipal district shall determine whether and to what extent funds shall be appropriated therefor.

(ii) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the metropolitan city shall distribute any remaining funds generated by any property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city initially levied by the municipality to the municipal district for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services within its territory, and for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district pursuant to executive order or ordinance of the metropolitan city.

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the metropolitan city shall, from any remaining funds generated by any sales or use tax of the metropolitan city initially levied or imposed by the municipality, distribute to the municipal district funds necessary for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services within its territory, and for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district pursuant to executive order or ordinance of the metropolitan city.

(3) Each municipal district shall constitute a taxing subdistrict of the metropolitan city. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution: (i) taxes, licenses, fees, or special assessments of the metropolitan city levied or imposed solely within the territory of a municipal district may be different than taxes, licenses, fees, or special assessments of the metropolitan city levied or imposed generally throughout its territory; (ii) the metropolitan city may levy or impose a tax, license, fee, or special assessment solely within the territory of a municipal district in order to ensure the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation, including, without limitation, financing obligations, incurred by the municipality prior to the effective date of this section; and (iii) the metropolitan city may levy or impose a tax, license, fee, or special assessment solely within the territory of a municipal district to provide or secure the provision of, or to increase the level of, any services provided or secured within the territory of the municipal district. Any such tax levied or imposed shall be subject to voter approval to the extent required by this constitution for the municipality, and the metropolitan city may issue financing obligations for the purposes provided herein, subject to the requirements of this constitution for voter approval thereof.

(4)(a) In addition to constituting a taxing subdistrict of the metropolitan city, each municipal district shall be a separate taxing district, with the taxing powers specified in this section and as may be provided by law. A municipal district may, in the manner and to the extent heretofore authorized for the municipality, exercise the following taxing powers for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services and for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district: (i) continue to levy a property tax or special assessment previously levied by the municipality, or levy a property tax or special assessment, which new levy may be in addition to any such property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city; and (ii) continue to levy a tax upon utilities previously levied by the municipality, or levy a tax upon utilities within the municipal district, which shall be in the place of any such tax upon utilities the metropolitan city is authorized to levy within the territory of the municipal district. The governing body of the municipal district shall set the rate of any property tax or special assessment levied by the municipal district in the manner provided by law and this constitution for the municipality.

(b) A municipal district may, in the manner and to the extent authorized for the municipality and as may be provided by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city, continue to impose and collect licenses and fees previously imposed and collected by the municipality, or impose and collect licenses and fees for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services, and for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district.

(c) A municipal district may issue financing obligations for the foregoing purposes in the manner provided by law and this constitution for the municipality.

(d) The fiscal year of each municipal district shall be the same as the fiscal year for the metropolitan city. The governing body of a municipal district shall administer the revenues generated from taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments, along with any funds otherwise secured by the municipal district in a manner consistent with that provided for the municipality and as may be provided by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city, pursuant to an annual budget adopted by the governing body, beginning with an annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023.

(e) Except as otherwise provided by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city, not later than ninety days prior to the first day of each fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, the governing body of a municipal district shall submit to the metropolitan city a true and accurate estimate of: (i) all outstanding obligations of any kind, including, without limitation, the principal, interest, and other amounts required to be paid on any financing obligations for the ensuing fiscal year; (ii) the expenditures necessary to provide or secure the provision of services for the ensuing fiscal year; and (iii) the funds, revenues, taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments for such purposes for the ensuing fiscal year. Except as otherwise provided in this section with respect to the transition period and as may be otherwise provided by law, charter, or ordinance of the metropolitan city following the effective date of this section, the metropolitan city shall make distributions pursuant to this section in accordance with the estimate so certified by the municipal district.

(5)(a) The metropolitan city shall be entitled to receive all funds from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private, to the extent and in the manner in which any county or city of the state is, or may in the future be, entitled to receive such funds. The metropolitan city shall be deemed both a city and a county for determining the right to receive funds from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private.

(b) A municipal district shall be entitled to receive all funds from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private, that are in furtherance of any power conferred upon a municipal district. A municipal district shall be deemed a political subdivision of the state and a municipal corporation for the purpose of determining the right to receive funds from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, all apportionments, distributions, allocations, remittances, and reimbursements of any kind from the state or United States government, or from any other agency, public or private, to counties, cities, towns, or villages that the county of St. Louis or any municipality was eligible to receive immediately prior to the effective date of this section, including, without limitation, the proceeds of taxes, licenses, and fees apportioned and distributed pursuant to this constitution or law, shall be calculated in the same manner as if the reorganization pursuant to this section had not occurred, but any such apportionments, distributions, allocations, remittances, and reimbursements shall be made to the metropolitan city, which shall distribute to the municipal district such portion thereof required for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation, or necessary for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services within its territory, and for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district.

(6)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, except as otherwise provided in this section, the budget of the metropolitan city and the municipal districts thereof for each year of the transition period shall be the combined adopted budgets for the county of St. Louis and for each municipality covering the twelve-month period beginning January 1, 2019, along with any supplemental or emergency appropriations, and any additional appropriations necessary for the satisfaction of any obligations of the county of St. Louis or any municipality adopted during the twelve-month period beginning January 1, 2020. Such budget shall be the complete financial plan for the metropolitan city and the municipal districts thereof for each year of the transition period. The amounts appropriated therein shall be deemed effective for each

year of the transition period, and the taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments levied and imposed in support thereof are hereby levied and imposed at the rates provided therein for each year of the transition period in order to create and provide new revenues in support of such appropriations. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, no adjustment to the rate of any levy therein shall be required during the transition period.

(b) The mayor and transition mayor shall jointly administer the budget for each year of the transition period. The mayor and transition mayor may jointly control the rate at which any appropriation is expended by allotment, may jointly reduce expenditures below appropriations, and may jointly transfer appropriations to ensure the proper and efficient administration of the metropolitan city and the municipal districts thereof during the transition period, provided that the mayor and transition mayor shall not reduce any appropriation for the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, if jointly recommended by the mayor and transition mayor, the county council of the county of St. Louis and the governing body of the municipal district located within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis shall by ordinance make supplemental or emergency appropriations from available funds, and such ordinances shall be deemed on behalf of the metropolitan city upon their adoption by both such bodies and the joint approval thereof by the mayor and transition mayor.

(c) During the transition period, the metropolitan city shall distribute, to the municipal district, funds generated from any tax, license, fee, or special assessment of the metropolitan city initially levied by the municipality: (i) as required for the satisfaction of any outstanding obligation of the municipal district, including, without limitation, financing obligations of the municipality; (ii) as necessary for providing or securing the provision of municipal district services within its territory; and (iii) as necessary for providing or securing the provision of a general district service until such service is provided or secured by the metropolitan city within the territory of the municipal district pursuant to executive order or ordinance of the metropolitan city.

(7)(a) Not later than November 15, 2022, the mayor and transition mayor shall jointly recommend and publish a balanced budget for the metropolitan city, which shall provide a complete financial plan for the metropolitan city for the ensuing fiscal year and shall include proposed tax rates, all estimated income and revenue, all proposed expenditures, and such other matters as may be necessary or advisable.

(b) The metropolitan city shall set the rate of any property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city, including any property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city levied solely within the territory of a municipal district, in the manner provided in this constitution and by law, except that the rate of the property tax levy for general county purposes levied solely within the territory heretofore in the county of St. Louis shall be reduced, for each subclass of real property and for personal property, to yield revenues no greater than half of the amount of revenues generated by such levy during the prior fiscal year.

(c) On or after January 1, 2023, the budget may be adopted in the manner provided by charter and ordinance, except as otherwise provided in this section. The amounts appropriated and the taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments levied or imposed in support thereof for the current fiscal year shall be deemed appropriated and levied or imposed for the ensuing fiscal year on a month-to-month basis, with all items prorated accordingly, until such time as the metropolitan council does adopt the budget. The mayor may object to one or more items or portions of items of appropriation, other than an appropriation for the payment of principal and

interest on financing obligations, in any ordinance presented, and such items or portions of items shall not take effect unless separately reconsidered and adopted by the metropolitan council with two-thirds of all members voting in the affirmative, the objections of the mayor notwithstanding.

(d) Following adoption of the annual budget, the mayor may control the rate at which any appropriation is expended by allotment, may reduce expenditures below appropriations whenever the actual revenues are less than the revenues upon which the appropriations were based, and may transfer appropriations to ensure the proper and efficient administration of the metropolitan city, provided that the mayor shall not reduce any appropriation for the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations. If recommended by the mayor, the metropolitan council may by ordinance make supplemental or emergency appropriations from available funds during the fiscal year.

(8)(a) Not later than sixty days prior to each fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, the mayor shall recommend to the metropolitan council a balanced budget, which shall provide a complete financial plan for the metropolitan city for the ensuing fiscal year and shall include proposed tax rates, all estimated income and revenue, all proposed expenditures, and such other matters as may be necessary or advisable.

(b) The metropolitan city shall annually set the rate of any property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city, including any property tax or special assessment of the metropolitan city levied solely within the territory of a municipal district, in the manner provided in this constitution and by law, except that the property tax levy of the metropolitan city for general county purposes levied solely within the territory heretofore in the county of St. Louis shall be levied throughout the territory of the metropolitan city, for each subclass of real property and for personal property, and shall be in place of the corresponding property tax levy of the metropolitan city for general county purposes levied solely within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis.

(c) The budget may be adopted in the manner provided by charter and ordinance, except as otherwise provided in this section. The amounts appropriated and the taxes, licenses, fees, and special assessments levied or imposed in support thereof for the current fiscal year shall be deemed appropriated and levied or imposed for the ensuing fiscal year on a month-to-month basis, with all items prorated accordingly, until such time as the metropolitan council does adopt the budget. The mayor may object to one or more items or portions of items of appropriation, other than an appropriation for the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations, in any ordinance presented, and such items or portions of items shall not take effect unless separately reconsidered and adopted by the metropolitan council with two-thirds of all members voting in the affirmative, the objections of the mayor notwithstanding.

(d) Following adoption of the annual budget, the mayor may control the rate at which any appropriation is expended by allotment, may reduce expenditures below appropriations whenever the actual revenues are less than the revenues upon which the appropriations were based, and may transfer appropriations within any department of the budget to ensure the proper and efficient administration of the metropolitan city, provided that the mayor shall not reduce any appropriation for the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations. If recommended by the mayor, the metropolitan council may by ordinance make supplemental or emergency appropriations from available funds during the fiscal year.

6. The St. Louis Fire Protection District.

(1)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, on January 1, 2023, there is hereby established a fire protection district, coextensive with the boundaries of the

territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis, to exercise the powers, privileges, duties, and functions now vested or in the future granted to a fire protection district pursuant to chapter 321 of the revised statutes of Missouri, with its name "The St. Louis Fire Protection District." Such fire protection district shall be a political subdivision, municipal corporation, and a body corporate and politic, providing fire protection, emergency medical, and related services authorized by law for a fire protection district.

(b) The fire protection district shall be governed by a board of directors with the powers, privileges, duties, and functions now or in the future granted by law to such boards. The initial board shall be comprised of five qualified voters appointed by the transition mayor, with three directors appointed for terms of three years and two appointed for terms of two years. Thereafter, members shall be elected to terms as provided by law for a fire protection district and serve until successors are duly elected and qualified in the manner provided by law for a fire protection district.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any property, contracts, records, and personnel related to the provision of fire protection, emergency medical, and related services within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis shall be transferred to the fire protection district. Any employee so transferred who has completed the training and instruction requirements applicable within the territory of the city of St. Louis shall be deemed as having completed the training and instruction requirements applicable to the territory of the metropolitan city.

(2)(a) For the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, the board shall certify to the metropolitan city the amount necessary to be raised by taxation and, with other revenues, to support the fire protection district, and shall certify the rate of levy which, when levied upon taxable property within the district as shown by the last completed assessment, shall raise the amount of revenues necessary to be raised by taxation. During the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023, the metropolitan city shall distribute to the fire protection district, from funds generated solely within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis, the amount of revenues necessary to be raised by taxation so certified by the board. In addition to such distribution, during such fiscal year, the metropolitan city may, by ordinance, make appropriations to the fire protection district from funds generated solely within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, effective for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2024, the board is hereby authorized to levy, on all taxable property within the territory of the district, a tax sufficient to produce from all taxable property, exclusive of new construction and improvements, substantially the same amount of revenue certified by the board as necessary to be raised by taxation for the prior fiscal year, subject to voter approval as required by this constitution. Upon such levy, the metropolitan city shall adjust the rates of taxes, licenses, and fees levied or imposed by the metropolitan city within the fire protection district, other than a tax, license, or fee levied for the satisfaction of any outstanding financing obligation, so to reduce the revenues generated overall thereby by substantially the same amount of revenues generated by the levy of the fire protection district.

(c) For each year beginning on or after January 1, 2025, the board shall determine the amount necessary to be raised by taxation and, with other revenues, to support the fire protection district, and shall set the rate of tax on all taxable property within the territory of the district to raise the amount required, in the manner provided by law and this constitution for a fire protection district. The board may fix an additional rate and may levy an additional tax for the purposes and in the manner authorized by law for a fire protection district.

(d) Until such time as the board has levied a tax authorized herein, the metropolitan city shall distribute funds annually to the fire protection district in the manner provided herein for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2023.

(3) The fire protection district may assume any outstanding obligations related to the services to be provided by the district within the territory heretofore in the city of St. Louis, including, without limitation, the payment of principal and interest on financing obligations, and any obligations related to employee benefits, including, without limitation, pension, retirement, disability, death, medical, life insurance, and similar benefits for employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries, provided that no such assumption shall impair any obligation of contract. The board shall make provision for the payment of principal, interest, and other amounts required to be paid on any outstanding financing obligation so assumed by levy of a sufficient tax within the district in the manner authorized by law for a fire protection district.

7. Elections.

(1)(a) Following the effective date of this section, the general assembly shall provide by law for a board of election commissioners or other election authority to perform such duties and possess such powers as provided by law with respect to the conduct of elections within the metropolitan city. Until such time as the general assembly has provided for a board of election commissioners or other election authority, the respective boards of election commissioners shall cooperate in the performance of the duties provided by law for a board of election commissioners in the conduct of elections within the metropolitan city.

(b) Following the effective date of this section, the general assembly shall provide for party committees of the metropolitan city organized in the manner and to perform such duties provided by law for county party committees. Until such time as the general assembly has provided for such party committees, the respective party committees shall cooperate in the performance of duties provided by law for county party committees.

(2)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, during the transition period, neither the metropolitan city nor any municipal district thereof shall have the power to submit any question to voters with respect to the continued levy or imposition of any tax initially levied or imposed by a municipality prior to the effective date of this section. Upon the failure to submit any question to voters with respect to the continued imposition or levy of any tax on earnings, such tax shall be reduced in the manner provided by law, and any tax on payroll expense initially levied or imposed by a municipality prior to the effective date of this section shall be reduced by one-twentieth of one percent annually until such tax is eliminated. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution and notwithstanding any reduction of such levies, the St. Louis Municipal Corporation shall satisfy any outstanding financing obligations from available revenues, and the metropolitan city shall distribute to the St. Louis Municipal Corporation, from revenues generated within the territory of the St. Louis Municipal Corporation, such revenues as may be required for the satisfaction of any such outstanding financing obligation.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, in the event of the death, resignation, or inability to serve of both persons designated by this section to serve in the offices of mayor and transition mayor prior to the effective date of this section, the prosecuting attorney of the metropolitan city and the assessor of the metropolitan city shall jointly possess and exercise the powers and duties of the office of mayor and transition mayor, and shall jointly act as the chief executive officer of the metropolitan city until such time as a mayor is elected by the qualified voters of the metropolitan city at the general municipal election in 2021 and has

assumed office ten days thereafter. Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the mayor so elected shall constitute the chief executive officer of the metropolitan city and shall exercise and perform any power, duty, or function otherwise to be jointly exercised by the mayor and the transition mayor during the transition period and shall exercise and perform any power, duty, or function of mayor until January 1, 2025, when a successor elected at the general election in November 2024 is duly serving. Except for the election of the mayor as provided in this paragraph, during the transition period, neither the metropolitan city nor any municipal district thereof shall have the power to call an election or to submit any question to voters with respect to any other office of the metropolitan city or of any municipal district.

(c) Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a special district from submitting any question to voters, and the costs of submitting such shall be borne according to law, unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city.

8. Judicial Circuit Boundaries.

(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, upon the effective date of this section, the judicial conference of the state of Missouri, as established by law, is hereby authorized to submit a circuit realignment plan, in the manner provided by section 478.073 of the revised statutes of Missouri, for the alteration of the geographical boundaries of the judicial circuits to create a single judicial circuit for the metropolitan city, provided that no judge shall be removed from office during his or her term by reason of any alteration of the geographical boundaries of any judicial circuit. Such plan shall become effective January first of the year following the session of the general assembly to which it is submitted, unless a bill providing such is presented to the governor and is duly enacted. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the general assembly from providing by law for the alteration of the geographical boundaries of the judicial circuits as authorized by this constitution.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the judges of the circuit courts for the city of St. Louis and for the county of St. Louis shall continue as judges of any judicial circuit for the metropolitan city, and the number of judges for any such circuit shall be the number authorized by law for both circuits as of the effective date of this section, unless subsequently modified in the manner provided by law.

(3) Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of circuit judge or associate circuit judge of a circuit court within the metropolitan city, the vacancy shall be filled in the manner provided by article V, sections 25(a)-(g) of this constitution.

9. Special Districts.

(1)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, upon the effective date of this section, all special districts and any provisions of this constitution or the laws of this state pertaining thereto, shall continue unaffected, and all special districts shall continue to exercise all powers, privileges, duties, and functions authorized as of the effective date of this section, except that any power to appoint, nominate, or recommend an appointment to the governing body of a special district possessed by any official of the county of St. Louis or of a municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall be exercised by the mayor, and any other power related to a special district possessed by the county of St. Louis or by a municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall be exercised by the metropolitan city, unless otherwise provided by law or pursuant thereto following the effective date of this section.

(b) Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the general assembly from providing by law for the consolidation of special districts made duplicative by the adoption of this section, provided that no such consolidation shall impair any obligation of contract.

10. School Districts and Fire Protection Districts.

(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, nothing herein shall be construed as affecting any school district or school, or any provisions of this constitution or the laws of this state pertaining thereto, and such laws and constitutional provisions shall continue in operation with respect to such school district or school, as if the reorganization adopted pursuant to this section had not occurred, including, without limitation, any law that constitutes the territorial boundaries of any school district based on the territorial boundaries of any municipality.

(2) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, nothing herein shall be construed as affecting any fire protection district located wholly or partially within the territory in the city of St. Louis or the county of St. Louis immediately prior to the effective date of this section, or any provisions of this constitution or the laws of this state pertaining thereto, and such laws and constitutional provisions shall continue in operation with respect to such fire protection district, as if the reorganization adopted pursuant to this section had not occurred.

11. General Provisions.

(1)(a) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair any obligation of contract, and the provisions of this section shall be administered so as to preserve and protect any vested rights therein. Any conflict in the provisions of contracts, bonds, franchises, deeds, obligations, and instruments shall be resolved in a manner that shall protect and preserve any vested rights and shall not impair the rights of any parties thereto.

(b) No action shall be taken to impair any contract with or any claim in favor of or against the county of St. Louis or any municipality in existence immediately prior to the effective date of this section or to impair or affect the validity of any outstanding obligation of any kind incurred prior to the effective date of this section.

(c) All actions, causes of action, rights, duties, titles, claims, debts, judgments, recognizances, fines, penalties, forfeitures, and obligations of any kind in favor of or against the county of St. Louis or any municipality as of the effective date of this section shall continue in full force and effect in favor of or against the metropolitan city or a municipal district, as the case may be.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all matters pending before or under consideration by the county of St. Louis or any municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section may be acted upon and disposed of as if originated, initiated, or introduced with the metropolitan city or a municipal district, as the case may be.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, if the requisite vote of the electors of the county of St. Louis or of any municipality shall have occurred with respect to the issuance of financing obligations prior to the effective date of this section, the metropolitan city or a municipal district, as the case may be, shall have the right to take any and all steps necessary to issue the same, with the same effect as if such actions had been taken by the metropolitan city or a municipal district and as if the vote had been of the requisite vote of the electors of the metropolitan city or the municipal district, as the case may be.

(2)(a) Any employee transferred to the metropolitan city pursuant to this section shall be entitled to continue in service with the metropolitan city, with seniority, rank, compensation, and accrued benefits intact, until otherwise provided by ordinance or order of the metropolitan city. Any rights, protections, and privileges attributed to any such employee by a civil service or similar system shall continue unimpaired with respect to any such employee in a corresponding civil service or similar system of the metropolitan city. Notwithstanding any other provision of

this subsection or law, any employee transferred to the metropolitan city pursuant to this section who was serving as chief, director, commissioner, or similar rank or position as the head of a department or office of a municipality, or any employee who was serving as assistant chief, deputy director, or similar rank or position immediately subordinate to the head of such department or office, shall be entitled to continue in service with the metropolitan city as provided in this subsection, but shall not be entitled to the rank or position as the head of a department or office of the metropolitan city or the immediate subordinate to the head of a department or office of the metropolitan city.

(b) Any employee transferred to the St. Louis Fire Protection District pursuant to this section shall be entitled to continue in service with the St. Louis Fire Protection District, with seniority, rank, compensation, and accrued benefits intact, until otherwise provided by the St. Louis Fire Protection District. Any rights, protections, and privileges attributed to any such employee by a civil service or similar system shall continue unimpaired with respect to any such employee in a corresponding civil service or similar system of the St. Louis Fire Protection District.

(c) Unless otherwise provided by ordinance of the metropolitan city following the transition period, any employee of the metropolitan city previously employed by the county of St. Louis or any municipality, other than the city of St. Louis, who is not a resident of the territory heretofore within the city of St. Louis and who became an employee of the metropolitan city as a result of the adoption of this section, shall be entitled to receive annually from the metropolitan city a refundable tax credit in an amount equal to the amount of taxation collected by the metropolitan city upon the earnings of such employee.

(3)(a) All collective bargaining agreements under negotiation or in existence with the county of St. Louis or any municipality immediately prior to the effective date of this section shall, if being negotiated, continue to be negotiated and, if in existence, continue in effect until the expiration of the terms of such agreements, at which time new agreements shall be negotiated with the metropolitan city, municipal district, or the St. Louis Fire Protection District, as the case may be; provided that, upon the metropolitan city assuming the provision of a general district service, the metropolitan city shall be the sole successor to any existing collective bargaining agreement in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this section between a recognized or certified majority collective bargaining representative and the county of St. Louis or the city of St. Louis related to such general district service. The metropolitan city shall continue to recognize and bargain in good faith with such collective bargaining representatives and shall abide by the terms of any collective bargaining agreement then in effect.

(b) Should the adoption of this section result in the merger of one or more collective bargaining units with another such unit represented by recognized or certified collective bargaining representatives, any disputes concerning such merger with respect to collective bargaining agreements with the city of St. Louis or the county of St. Louis relating to the provision of a general district service assumed by the metropolitan city, including the status of a representative or conflicts between agreements, that cannot be resolved through negotiations shall be submitted to interest arbitration, which shall bind all required parties and which shall be conducted by an experienced labor interest arbitrator mutually selected by the metropolitan city and the affected collective bargaining representatives.

(c) Nothing herein shall be construed to affect, limit, or impair the rights of employees to organize and bargain collectively as provided in article I, section 29 of this constitution, and the provisions of this section shall be construed in harmony therewith.

(4)(a) Nothing herein shall deprive any person of any vested, non-forfeitable, and contractual right or privilege to retire or to retirement or pension benefits, including, without limitation, disability and death benefits, if any, earned prior to the effective date of this section. All vested, non-forfeitable, and contractual rights, protections, and privileges of employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries in any retirement fund or pension system related to the county of St. Louis or a municipality as of the effective date of this section shall continue unimpaired until all benefits due such employees, eligible dependents, and beneficiaries have been paid.

(b) Employee members of a retirement fund or pension system who are transferred to the metropolitan city or to the St. Louis Fire Protection District pursuant to this section shall remain members of and continue to earn service credit toward the benefits of such retirement fund or pension system, including, without limitation, disability and death benefits, during their employment with the metropolitan city. The metropolitan city or the St. Louis Fire Protection District, as the case may be, shall contribute proportionately to any such retirement fund or pension system for each such employee member with respect to their employment with the metropolitan city or the St. Louis Fire Protection District as required by law or ordinance, but any contribution or portion thereof attributed to benefits accrued prior to the transfer of such employee to the metropolitan city or to the St. Louis Fire Protection District shall remain an outstanding obligation satisfied solely from funds generated within the territory in which such obligation was incurred as provided in this section, provided that the St. Louis Fire Protection District may assume any such obligation for employees transferred to the district as provided in this section. The metropolitan city, municipal districts, and the St. Louis Municipal Corporation may purchase from an insurance company in accordance with federal fiduciary standards under the Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 or its successor laws, annuities to provide for such retirement or pension benefits as necessary.

(c) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, the members of the board of trustees or similar governing body for any retirement fund or pension system created prior to the effective date of this section shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed and serving. The successor for such members who are office holders of a municipality shall be the assessor of the metropolitan city, and the successor for such members who were required to be appointed by any official of a municipality prior to the effective date of this section shall be appointed by the mayor.

(d) Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the general assembly from providing by law for the modification of any pension or retirement system created by state law or to prohibit the metropolitan city from providing by charter or ordinance for the modification of any pension or retirement system created by charter or ordinance of a municipality or the county of St. Louis prior to the effective date of this section.

(5) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, a geographic designation in law or this constitution based upon the territorial boundaries of the county of St. Louis or of any municipality may continue to be construed as the territorial boundaries of the county of St. Louis or the municipality, as the case may be, as such boundaries existed immediately prior to the effective date of this section.

(6) Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, any city, town, or village located partially but not wholly within the territory of the metropolitan city shall remain unaffected by this section, except that its territory located within the metropolitan city shall be detached and annexed to the metropolitan city upon the effective date of this section. The

metropolitan city shall distribute annually to such city, town, or village, funds in an amount equal to the revenues generated within the former territory of such city, town, or village and that would have otherwise been received if the reorganization adopted pursuant to this section had not occurred, until otherwise provided by law. Notwithstanding any provision of law or this constitution, any municipal district with territory outside of the metropolitan city may continue providing or securing the provision of municipal district services within such territory, and the metropolitan city may provide or secure the provision of general district services within such territory, until otherwise provided by law.

(7) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, any charter provision in effect immediately prior to the effective date of this section requiring a public vote related to the sale, lease, or disposition of any real estate designated as a public park shall continue to apply to the territory to which it applied immediately prior to the effective date of this section, until amended in the manner provided in this section for amending the charter of the metropolitan city.

(8) The general assembly may enact such laws as may be necessary and proper to aid in effectuating this section and may regulate the metropolitan city to the same extent and in the same manner as a constitutional charter county or a constitutional charter city.

12. Severability.

(1) The provisions of this section are severable, and if any portion, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this section, or an application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remaining portions, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases, and the application of the section and its provisions to other persons and circumstances, shall not be affected, but shall remain in full force and effect.

[Section 30(a). The people of the city of St. Louis and the people of the county of St. Louis shall have power (1) to consolidate the territories and governments of the city and county into one political subdivision under the municipal government of the city of St. Louis; or, (2) to extend the territorial boundaries of the county so as to embrace the territory within the city and to reorganize and consolidate the county governments of the city and county, and adjust their relations as thus united, and thereafter the city may extend its limits in the manner provided by law for other cities; or, (3) to enlarge the present or future limits of the city by annexing thereto part of the territory of the county, and to confer upon the city exclusive jurisdiction of the territory so annexed to the city; or, (4) to establish a metropolitan district or districts for the functional administration of services common to the area included therein; or, (5) to formulate and adopt any other plan for the partial or complete government of all or any part of the city and the county. The power so given shall be exercised by the vote of the people of the city and county upon a plan prepared by a board of freeholders consisting of nineteen members, nine of whom shall be electors of the city and nine electors of the county and one an elector of some other county. Upon the filing with the officials in general charge of elections in the city of a petition proposing the exercise of the powers hereby granted, signed by registered voters of the city in such number as shall equal three percent of the total vote cast in the city at the last general election for governor, and the certification thereof by the election officials to the mayor, and to the governor, then, within ten days after the certification the mayor shall, with the approval of a majority of the board of aldermen, appoint the city's nine members of the board, not more than five of whom shall be members of or affiliated with the same political party. Each member so appointed shall be given a certificate certifying his appointment signed by the mayor and attested by the seal of the city. Upon the filing with the officials in general charge of elections in the

county of a similar petition signed by registered voters of the county, in such number as shall equal three percent of the total vote cast in the county at the last general election for governor, and the certification thereof by the county election officials to the county supervisor of the county and to the governor, within ten days after the certification, the county supervisor shall, with the approval of a majority of the county council, appoint the county's nine members of the board, not more than five of whom shall be members of or affiliated with the same political party. Each member so appointed shall be given a certificate of his appointment signed by the county supervisor and attested by the seal of the county.]

[Section 30(b). Upon certification of the filing of such similar petitions by the officials in general charge of elections of the city and the county, the governor shall appoint one member of the board who shall be a resident of the state, but shall not reside in either the city or the county, who shall be given a certificate of his appointment signed by the governor and attested by the seal of the state. The freeholders of the city and county shall fix reasonable compensation and expenses for the freeholder appointed by the governor and the cost shall be paid equally by the city and county. The appointment of the board shall be completed within thirty days after the certification of the filing of the petition, and at ten o'clock on the second Monday after their appointment the members of the board shall meet in the chamber of the board of aldermen in the city hall of the city and shall proceed with the discharge of their duties, and shall meet at such other times and places as shall be agreed upon. On the death, resignation or inability of any member of the board to serve, the appointing authority shall select the successor. The board shall prepare and propose a plan for the execution of the powers herein granted and for the adjustment of all matters and issues arising thereunder. The members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services as members, but the necessary expenses of the board shall be paid one-half by the county and one-half by the city on vouchers signed by the chairman of the board. The plan shall be signed in duplicate by the board or a majority thereof, and one copy shall be returned to the officials having general charge of elections in the city, and the other to such officials in the county, within one year after the appointment of the board. Said election officials shall cause separate elections to be held in the city and county, on the day fixed by the freeholders, at which the plan shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the city and county separately. The elections shall not be less than ninety days after the filing of the plan with said officials, and not on or within seventy days of any state or county primary or general election day in the city or county. The plan shall provide for the assessment and taxation of real estate in accordance with the use to which it is being put at the time of the assessment, whether agricultural, industrial or other use, giving due regard to the other provisions of this constitution. If a majority of the qualified electors of the city voting thereon, and a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting thereon at the separate elections shall vote for the plan, then, at such time as shall be prescribed therein, the same shall become the organic law of the territory therein defined, and shall take the place of and supersede all laws, charter provisions and ordinances inconsistent therewith relating to said territory. If the plan be adopted, copies thereof, certified to by said election officials of the city and county, shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state and recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds for the city, and in the office of the recorder of deeds of the present county, and the courts of this state shall take judicial notice thereof.]

[Section 31. The city of St. Louis, as now existing, is recognized both as a city and as a county unless otherwise changed in accordance with the provisions of this constitution. As a city it shall

continue for city purposes with its present charter, subject to changes and amendments provided by the constitution or by law, and with the powers, organization, rights and privileges permitted by this constitution or by law. As a county, it shall not be required to adopt a county charter but may, except for the office of circuit attorney, amend or revise its present charter to provide for the number, kinds, manner of selection, terms of office and salaries of its county officers, and for the exercise of all powers and duties of counties and county officers prescribed by the constitution and laws of the state.]

[Section 32(a). The charter of the city of St. Louis now existing, or as hereafter amended or revised, may be amended or revised for city or county purposes from time to time by proposals therefor submitted by the lawmaking body of the city to the qualified voters thereof, at a general or special election held at least sixty days after the publication of such proposals, and accepted by three-fifths of the qualified electors voting for or against each of said amendments or revisions so submitted.]

[Section 32(b). In the event of any amendment or revision of the charter of the city of St. Louis which shall reorganize any county office and/or transfer any or all of the duties, powers and functions of any county officer who is then in office, the officer shall serve out the remainder of his or her term, and the amendment or revision of the charter of the city of St. Louis shall take effect, as to such office, upon the expiration of the term of such office holder. In the event of any amendment or revision of the charter of the city of St. Louis which shall reorganize any county office and/or transfer any or all of the duties, powers and functions of any county officer, all of the staff of such office shall be afforded the opportunity to become employees of the city of St. Louis with their individual seniority and compensation unaffected and on such other comparable terms and conditions as may be fair and equitable.]

[Section 32(c). An amendment or revision adopted pursuant to section 32(a) of this article shall not deprive any person of any right or privilege to retire and to retirement benefits, if any, to which he or she was entitled immediately prior to the effective date of that amendment or revision.]

[Section 33. Copies of any new or revised charter of the city of St. Louis or of any amendments to the present, or to any new or revised charter, with a certificate thereto appended, signed by the chief executive and authenticated by the seal of the city, setting forth the submission to and ratification thereof, by the qualified voters of the city shall be made in duplicate, one of which shall be deposited in the office of the secretary of state, and the other, after being recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds of the city, shall be deposited among the archives of the city, and thereafter all courts of this state shall take judicial notice thereof.]